THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Information in this regard is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Export and Import of Shoes by India

947. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the volume and value of shoes exported and imported by India annually direction-wise;

(b) the names of the major first 10 shoes exporters and importers in India; and

(c) the steps being taken to encourage shoe exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The volume and value of shoes exported and imported by India during the last three years are as follows:—

(Quantity in Lakh pairs) **(Value in Rs. Crores)**

Exports (Leather Shoes)			*Imports*		
Year	Qty.	Value	Year	Qty.	Value
1993-94	286.5	640.72	1993-94		(Negligible)
1994-95	307.6	948.90	1994-95	Nil	Nil
1995-96	355.3	1102.69	1995-96	0.03	0.08

(Source: Council for Leather Exports) (Source: DGCI&S)

The main destinations of export of shoes are USA, Germany, UK, CIS countries, Italy, Australia, France, Canada and Netherlands. Imports of shoes by India is of very low volume and does not have any fixed trend.

(b) The names of ten leading shoe exporters as per records available with the Council for Leather Exports are:—

(1) Florind Shoes Ltd.
(2) Farida Shoes Ltd.
(3) K.H. Shoes Ltd.
(4) Farida Classic Shoes Ltd.
(5) Kiran Overseas Exports Ltd.
(6) Floram Shoes (India) Ltd.
(7) Bonaventure Shoes Pvt. Ltd.
(8) Evergreen Footwears Ltd.
(9) India Shoes
(10) United India Shoes Corporation.

Details with regard to Importers are not maintained due to low volume of imports.

(c) Ministry of Commerce has identified Leather Footwear as an Extreme Focus item capable of achieving higher export growth. Accordingly, an export promotion strategy has been adopted which inter-alia includes training of manpower to develop modern skills; establishment of design studios with CAD/CAM facilities for product development; reduction/ rationalisation of Customs/Excise duty on footwear components and establishment of coordinated marketing system.

Growth rate of Exports

948. DR. B.B. DUTTA:
PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of growth of export during April—September, 1996;

(b) in what manner this growth rate compares with that achieved during the same period of 1995-96;

(c) the reasons for decline in the growth rate of exports during the current year; and

(d) details of measures taken to sustain the growth of exports and to achieve higher growth of exports during the remaining period of 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) As per the available estimates from DGCI&S exports during April—September, 1996 and the corresponding period during last year and growth rates are given below:—

Exports	April-Sept. 1995-96	April-Sept. 1996-97	Growth Rate
Re. terms	46591	56800	21.91%
$ terms	14684	16139	9.9%

Exports have increased by 9.9% in dollar terms and 21.91% in rupee terms during April—September, 1996 over the corresponding period last year.

(c) The slower growth in exports at 9.9% in dollar terms has been achieved on a higher base value achieved due to a sustained export growth in recent years at 18-20 per cent. A paradigm shift in demand for soft goods in international markets, a slow down in world exports growth, infrastructural bottlenecks, cost of export credit as well as tariff and non-tariff barriers could be cited amongst reasons for a slower growth.

(d) Exports promotion is a continuous activity; the measures taken for export promotion include simplification of policy & procedures promoting joint ventures & bilateral trade relations improving efficiency & competitiveness, de-bottlenecking of export infrastructure and interaction with exporting community.

Royalty rates on Diamonds

949. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up to examines the royalty rates on diamonds in India and compare them with royalties internationally had submitted a report to the Government;

(b) whether the recommendations made by the Committee have been examined; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASADYADAV): (a) to (c) The Government constituted a Study Group on 30.1.95 for carrying out detailed review of rates of royalty and dead rent applicable to major minerals (other than Coal, lignite and sand for stowing) including diamonds in India. The Study Group has inter-alia considered the royalty rates in important mineral producing countries also and has submitted its report to the Government in Nov. 1995. Report of the Study Group has been examined and the revision of royalty rates is under consideration of the Government.

New Gold deposits in the Country

950. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minsiter of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new deposits of gold have been located in the Chitradurga and other districts of Karnataka and other parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the steps taken to extract gold from the newly identified gold mines?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The Geological Survey of India (GSI), through mineral investigations, has located new deposits of gold in various parts of the country. The details of such deposits, as located by GSI are given below:—